



# Fees for providers

## Cost recovery guide and scenarios

November 2025



**Australian Government**  
**Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission**

Engage  
Empower  
**Safeguard**

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# Overview

**This guide is a high-level summary of the fees that providers need to pay from 1 November 2025. This is also known as cost recovery.**

You can find more information about fees for providers (the charging arrangements) in the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission's [Cost Recovery Implementation Statement](#) (CRIS).

Please read this guide alongside the CRIS.

The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Commission) is Australia's aged care regulator. We support and supervise Australian Government-funded aged care providers to make sure older people receive the care they want and need.

Under the new *Aged Care Act 2024* (new Aged Care Act) the way we regulate has changed. As part of these changes, we have new fees and charging arrangements (cost recovery) for people and organisations applying to become a registered provider.

From 1 November 2025, all Australian Government-funded providers of aged care services need to be registered by the Commission. Only providers that are suitable can register and stay registered to provide aged care. This change helps protect older people.

We're developing our new cost-recovery approach in 2 stages. **Stage 1** started on 1 November 2025 when we started charging fees to:

- assess applications to be a registered provider
- renew or vary a provider's registration
- do any related audits.

These are similar to the cost recovery arrangements in place under the *Aged Care Act 1997* to:

- assess applications to be an approved aged care provider
- accredit and reaccredit residential aged care services.

We stopped charging these old fees on 31 October 2025.

## Why we charge fees

Government entities like the Commission charge fees to recover some or all of the costs to do specific activities. This is called cost recovery. For example, undertaking regulation, or providing goods or services.

How government agencies should design, use and review charging is set out in the Australian Government:

- [Cost Recovery Policy](#)
- [Charging Framework](#).

The Cost Recovery Policy says:

- Where appropriate, non-government stakeholders that receive specific government activities should be charged some or all of the costs of those activities.
- If an entity provides the same activity for government and non-government stakeholders, the charges should be the same for everyone.

In the 2024–25 Budget, the Australian Government agreed to a 2-stage approach for cost recovery under the new Aged Care Act.

- **Stage 1** started on 1 November 2025. Stage 1 cost recovery arrangements are for regulatory activities similar to those providers already pay fees for under the *Aged Care Act 1997*.
- **Stage 2** will start 2 years after the new Aged Care Act starts. We'll consult on the Stage 2 details closer to this time.

## Cost Recovery Implementation Statements

A Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) is a document that explains how a government agency plans to recover costs for a specific activity.

A CRIS explains an entity's:

- cost recovery arrangements, including:
  - activities they charge fees for
  - what fees they charge
  - fee waiver criteria (when they charge a smaller fee or no fee)
- cost recovery activities, including the number and type of activities
- financial statements, such as total fee revenue (money coming in) and expenses (money going out) for cost recovered activities (both forecast and actual).

The Cost Recovery Policy requires the Commission to publish a CRIS each financial year, and to regularly review our cost recovery arrangements.

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The Commission's CRIS for 1 November 2025 to 30 June 2026 includes cost recovery arrangements for:

- provider registration
- renewal of registration
- variation of registration (when providers ask to make changes to their registration).

## **What activities we charge fees for**

From 1 November 2025 we charge fees for:

### **1. Provider registration**

- New providers need to apply to be registered in one or more of the 6 registration categories. See Table 1.
- We'll assess their application form and (where relevant) audit them before we decide if we'll register them.
- The standard registration period is 3 years.

### **2. Renewal of registration**

- We'll invite providers to renew their registration up to 18 months before it expires.
- We'll assess a provider's previous behaviour and (where relevant) audit them before we decide if we'll renew their registration.

### **3. Variation of registration**

- Providers can ask to change (vary) their registration profile to:
  - register in a new category
  - remove a registration category
  - get a new residential care home (RCH) approved.
- Processes for varying registration depend on the type of variation. We usually assess and (where relevant) audit a provider before we decide if we'll vary their registration.

You can find more information about the activities we charge fees for in sections 1.3 and 1.4 of the CRIS. You can also find information about the provider registration, renewal and variation of registration processes in section 3.

Provider registration category	Description
<b>1</b> Category 1	Home and community services
<b>2</b> Category 2	Assistive technology and home modifications
<b>3</b> Category 3	Advisory and support services
<b>4</b> Category 4	Personal and care support in the home or community
<b>5</b> Category 5	Nursing and transitional care
<b>6</b> Category 6	Residential care (including respite)

Table 1: Registration categories

## Our approach to charging fees

Our fees vary depending on which category you register in, renew or vary. This is because the registration categories group services together based on the type of care, complexity and risk. We need more time to assess applications for registration categories 4, 5 and 6 as these categories are more complex and higher risk. We also need to audit providers who apply for registration, renewal and variation in these categories.

We also charge different fees to vary registration depending on the type of variation. For example, fees for applications to add a registration category are higher than fees for applications to remove a category. Only variations to add a new registration category, remove a registration category, or approve a new residential care home are currently charged fees.

The Government's Cost Recovery Policy requires us to charge the full recoverable cost of the activities included in section 3.3.1 of the CRIS .

In early 2025 we held a public consultation to help us understand providers' key concerns about the proposed fees and fee arrangements under the new Aged Care Act. This feedback helped us write our advice to the Government about the proposed Stage 1 arrangements.

Learn more about our [public consultation](#).

## **How we calculate fees**

We calculated the Stage 1 fees by working out the efficient costs of each activity. Efficient costs are the lowest amounts we can spend to:

- provide the activity
- achieve the policy objectives
- run a registration system that meets our legal requirements under the new Aged Care Act.

The efficient costs include expenses such as:

- staff
- information and communication technology (ICT) systems
- utilities (such as electricity)
- corporate overheads (such as HR).

You can find more information in the CRIS, including:

- how we calculate fees (section 3.2)
- the forecast cost recovery revenue for 1 November 2025 – 30 June 2026 (section 3.4)
- the forecast financial performance for 1 November 2025 – 30 June 2026 and financial years 2026–27, 2027–28 and 2028–29 (section 6.1).

## **Who has to pay fees**

We charge fees from:

- organisations or people who want to become a registered provider
- registered providers who want to renew or vary their registration.

This includes charging fees from:

- residential aged care homes
- Support at Home program providers
- specialist aged care programs, including:
  - Commonwealth Home Support Program
  - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program.



## **Fees for providers**

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### **How and when to pay fees**

We'll send you an invoice for your fee after you submit your application to register, renew or vary your registration, and prior to any audits (if an audit is needed). You can pay it by EFT or BPAY.

For renewal, if an audit is needed, you will receive an invoice for the audit fees after you have confirmed your intent to renew your registration (in response to an invitation from us). We'll then send you a separate invoice for the renewal application fee after you submit your renewal application.

### **When fees change**

We review our fees at the end of each financial year and apply indexation (change them to keep up with inflation). We will publish a 2026–27 financial year CRIS to let providers, and people or organisations applying to become providers, know what the updated fee amounts are.

We'll consult the sector and stakeholders who may be affected by new fees and charging arrangements before we make any changes (other than applying indexation). We'll do this during Stage 1 to prepare for Stage 2.



# Fees and waivers

You can find the fees for registering, renewing and varying your registration, and for the audits we do as part of these processes, in Tables 2–4.

You can also find information about these fees in the [CRIS](#) or estimate your fees with our [fee calculators](#).

These fees apply from 1 November 2025.

## Fee waivers and fee reductions

Some providers are eligible to pay a reduced fee or no fee at all. These fee reductions are called fee waivers.

They help providers to:

- start up and run their business in thin markets (areas where there aren't many services operating)
- keep running their business even if they have financial viability risk (financial challenges)

They also support more First Nations providers joining the aged care sector.

You can find the fee waiver eligibility criteria for our registration services in Tables 2–4.

If you're applying to register as a provider and want to receive a fee waiver, you'll need to send us evidence that you're eligible based on the criteria. You will also have to do this if you're varying your registration. If you're renewing your registration, we'll let you know if you're eligible.

You can find more information about how we apply the fee waiver criteria in the [Scenarios](#).

Visit our website to find the [fee waiver eligibility form and guidance](#).

## Fees to register

Table 2: Fees to register

Registration applications				
Fee type	Charge point	Fee	Frequency	Fee waiver
Application	Entity level assessment	\$3,270	Once per application	<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicants delivering at least 85% of care and services in <a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 6–7</a></li> <li><b>OR</b></li> <li>Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)</li> </ul>
Application	Review of category specific requirements (categories 1–3)	\$1,270	Once per category applied for	
Application	Review of category specific requirements (categories 4–5)	\$3,800	Once per category applied for	
Application	Review of category specific requirements (Category 6)	\$5,070	Once per category applied for	
Application	Residential care home (RCH) approval	\$3,800	Once per new residential care home	

Registration audits				
Fee type	Charge point	Fee	Frequency	Fee waiver
Audit	Registration audit (categories 4–6)	\$14,870	Once per application	<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicants delivering at least 85% of care and services in <a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 6–7</a></li> <li><b>OR</b></li> <li>Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)</li> </ul>

## Fees to renew registration

Table 3: Fees to renew registration

Renewal applications				
Fee type	Charge point	Fee	Frequency	Fee waiver
Application	Entity level assessment	\$295	Once per application	<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicants delivering 100% of care and services in <a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 5-7</a> <b>OR</b></li> <li>Smallest 10% of the sector based on number of older people accessing funded aged care services (at provider level)</li> </ul>
Application	Review of category specific requirements (categories 1-3)	\$770	Once per category applied for	
Application	Review of category specific requirements (categories 4-5)	\$4,040	Once per category applied for	
Application	Review of category specific requirements (Category 6)	\$5,380	Once per category applied for	
Application	Residential care home (RCH) approval	\$3,800	Once per new residential care home	

## Fees for providers

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Renewal audits (categories 4–6)				
Fee type	Charge point	Fee	Frequency	Fee waiver
Audit	Provider-level evidence gathering (categories 4–6)	\$7,890	Once per application	<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicants delivering 100% of care and services in <a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 5–7</a> <b>OR</b></li> <li>Smallest 10% of the sector based on number of older people accessing funded aged care services (at provider level)</li> </ul>
Audit	Audit – categories 4–5 (low complexity)	\$9,800	Once per application	
Audit	Audit – categories 4–5 (moderate complexity)	\$15,550	Once per application	
Audit	Audit – categories 4–5 (complex)	\$17,950	Once per application	
Audit	Audit – Category 6 (1–150 beds)	\$16,340	Once per residential care home	<b>Grandfathered fee waiver criteria:</b> Any residential care home (RCH) that received a fee waiver for their last reaccreditation site audit will receive the same fee waiver, full or 50%, for the Category 6 renewal audit for the same RCH.  The fee waiver criteria will be extended to RCHs that have not previously had a reaccreditation audit, using occupied bed days as a substitute for number of places.
Audit	Audit – Category 6 (151–250 beds)	\$17,510	Once per residential care home	
Audit	Audit – Category 6 (251+ beds)	\$18,670	Once per residential care home	
				<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 4–7</a> and fewer than 25 places</li> <li>Fewer than 25 places and specialised homeless or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status</li> </ul> <b>Partial (50%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 4</a> and 25–29 places <b>OR</b></li> <li><a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 5</a> and 25–39 places <b>OR</b></li> <li><a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 6–7</a> and more than 24 places <b>OR</b></li> <li>More than 24 places and specialised homeless or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Status</li> <li>Fewer than 25 places</li> </ul>

## Fees to vary registration

Table 4: Fees to vary registration

Variation applications				
Fee type	Charge point	Fee	Frequency	Fee waiver
Application	Remove category (categories 1–3 <b>OR</b> categories 4–6 with zero older people)	\$545	Once per application	<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicants delivering at least 85% of care and services in <a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 6–7</a> <b>OR</b></li> <li>Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)</li> </ul>
Application	Remove category (categories 4–6 with older people)	\$4,800	Once per category applied for	
Application	Add category (categories 1–3)	\$1,270	Once per category applied for	
Application	Add category (categories 4–5)	\$3,800	Once per category applied for	
Application	Add category (Category 6)	\$5,070	Once per category applied for	
Application	Residential care home (RCH) approval	\$3,800	Once per new residential care home	

Variation audits				
Fee type	Charge point	Fee	Frequency	Fee waiver
Audit	Variation audit (add categories 4–6)	\$18,530	Once per application	<b>Full (100%) fee waiver</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicants delivering 85% of care and services in <a href="#">Modified Monash Model (MMM) 6–7</a> <b>OR</b></li> <li>Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation (ACCO)</li> </ul>

# Scenarios

## Registering as a new provider

Read the scenarios to find out your fee to register as a new provider.

### Scenario

I'm a new provider.

I want to register in categories 1 and 3 to provide services in a metropolitan area ([MM1](#)).

I'm not an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.

You're **not eligible for a fee waiver** because you want to service an MM1 area. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$5,810**.

This is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$3,270 (once)
- Review of category-specific requirements (categories 1–3) =  $\$1,270 \times 2 = \$2,540$  (once per category)

### Scenario

I'm a new provider.

I want to register in categories 1 and 3.

I want to provide at least 85% of my services to older people in the [MM6](#) and/or [MM7](#) areas.

I'm not an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.

If you can provide evidence that supports your claim you will provide at least 85% of services to older people in the MMM6 and/or MMM7 areas, you're **eligible for a full fee waiver**. We'll charge you **\$0** to register.

### Scenario

I'm an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation. I want to become a home care provider.

I want to register in categories 1 to 5.

If you can provide evidence that supports you are an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation, you're **eligible for a full fee waiver**. We'll charge you **\$0** to register.

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#### Scenario

I'm a new provider.

I want to deliver home support services.

I want to register in categories 1 to 5.

I want to provide at least 50% of my services to older people in [MM6](#) and/or [MM7](#) areas.

I'm not an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation.

You're **not eligible for a fee waiver** because you don't meet the 85% threshold to deliver care in MM6 and/or MM7 areas. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$29,550**.

This is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$3,270 (once)
- Review of category-specific requirements (categories 1–3) = \$1,270 x 3 = \$3,810 (once per category)
- Review of category-specific requirements (categories 4–5) = \$3,800 x 2 = \$7,600 (once per category)
- Registration audit (4–6) = \$14,870 (once)



#### Scenario

I'm a new provider entering the market in Category 6.

I want to get 3 residential care homes approved.

All homes are in an [MM1](#) area.

You're **not eligible for a fee waiver** because you don't satisfy the MMM requirement and you're not an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$34,610**.

This is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$3,270 (once)
- Review of category-specific requirements (Category 6) = \$5,070 (once)
- Residential care home approval = \$3,800 x 3 = \$11,400 (once per RCH)
- Registration audit (4–6) = \$14,870 (once)



## Renewing your registration

Read the scenarios to find out your fee to renew your registration.



### Scenario

I'm a small provider registered in categories 1 and 3.

I provide care and services to 23 older people in an **MM1** area.

Although you service an MM1 area, you're **eligible for a full fee waiver**. This is because you provide care and services to 29 or fewer older people. This means you can be classified in the smallest 10% of the sector. We'll charge you **\$0** to renew your registration.



### Scenario

I'm a small provider registered in categories 1 and 3.

I provide care and services to 42 older people in an **MM1** area.

You're **not eligible for a fee waiver** because you service an MM1 area and provide care and services to more than 29 older people. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$1,835**.

This is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$295 (once)
- Review of category-specific requirements (categories 1–3) =  $\$770 \times 2 = \$1,540$  (once per category)



### Scenario

I'm a registered provider for categories 1 to 5.

I provide care and services to 112 older people in **MM1–MM3** areas.

I deliver category 4 and 5 services to 72 older people in one state.

You're **not eligible for a fee waiver** because you don't meet the MMM requirements. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$34,125**.

This is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$295 (once)
- Review of category-specific requirements (categories 1–3) =  $\$770 \times 3 = \$2,310$  (once per category)
- Review of category-specific requirements (categories 4–5) =  $\$4,040 \times 2 = \$8,080$  (once per category)
- Renewal audit – Provider level evidence gathering (categories 4–6) = \$7,890 (once)
- Renewal audit – categories 4–5 = \$15,550 (once) (deemed 'moderate complexity' as you provide care and services to 72 older people in one state)

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#### Scenario

I'm a large residential care provider with 27 residential care homes (RCH), registered in Category 6.

All RCHs are in **MM1-MM3** areas.

My RCH size breakdown is:

- 1-150 beds: 22
- 151-250 beds: 4
- 251+ beds: 1

You're **not eligible for any fee waivers**. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$461,755**.

This is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$295 (once)
- Review of category-specific requirements (Category 6) = \$5,380 (once)
- Provider level evidence gathering (categories 4-6) = \$7,890 (once) – Renewal audit
- Category 6 (1-150 beds) = \$16,340 x 22 = \$359,480 (once per RCH) – Renewal audit
- Category 6 (151-250 beds) = \$17,510 x 4 = \$70,040 (once per RCH)
- Renewal audit – Category 6 (251+ beds) = \$18,670 x 1 = \$18,670 (once per RCH)



#### Scenario

I'm a provider registered in Category 6.

I want to renew registration for 3 approved residential care homes (RCH).

My approved homes include:

- RCH 1: **MM2**, 123 older people
- RCH 2: **MM6**, 18 older people
- RCH 3: **MM5**, 27 older people

For my last reaccreditation site audits, RCH 2 received a full fee waiver and RCH 3 received a 50% fee waiver.

You will be **eligible for a partial fee waiver** as 2 out of 3 of your approved RCHs meet the fee waiver criteria. We'll be charge you a total fee of **\$38,075**.

This total is made up of:

- Entity level assessment = \$295 (once)
- Review of category specific requirements (Category 6) = \$5,380 (once)
- Provider level evidence gathering (categories 4-6) = \$7,890 (once)
- Renewal audit – Category 6 = \$24,510
  - RCH 1: Renewal audit – Category 6 (1-150 beds) = \$16,340 (once, no fee waiver)
  - RCH 2: Renewal audit – Category 6 (1-150 beds) = \$0 (full fee waiver)
  - RCH 3: Renewal audit – Category 6 (1-150 beds) = \$8,170 (once, 50% fee waiver)

## Varying your registration

Read the scenarios to find out your fee to vary your registration.



### Scenario

I'm a provider registered in categories 1 and 3.

I want to add categories 4 and 5 to provide services in [MM1-MM2](#) areas.

You're **not eligible for a fee waiver** because you don't meet the MMM criteria and you're not an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$26,130**.

This is made up of:

- Application – add category – category 4–5 =  $\$3,800 \times 2 = \$7,600$  (once per category)
- Variation audit – add category 4–6 =  $\$18,530$  (once)



### Scenario

I'm an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation, registered in categories 1 to 5.

I want to register in Category 6 and have one new residential care home approved.

You're **eligible for a full fee waiver**. We'll charge you **\$0** for the variation.



### Scenario

I'm a provider registered in categories 1 to 5. I want to register in Category 6 and have one new residential care home (RCH) approved in an [MM2](#) area.

You're **not eligible for a full fee waiver** because you don't meet the MMM location requirement and you're not an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation. We'll charge you a total fee of **\$27,400**.

This is made up of:

- Application – add category – Category 6 =  $\$5,070$  (once)
- Residential care home approval =  $\$3,800 \times 1 = \$3,800$  (once per RCH)
- Variation audit – add category 4–6 =  $\$18,530$  (once)

## Fees for providers

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#### Scenario

**I'm a medium sized provider registered in categories 1 to 5.**

**I provide services to no older people in categories 4 and 5 so I want to remove categories 4 and 5.**

We'll charge you a total fee of **\$545**.

This is made up of:

- Application – remove category – category 4–6 (zero older people) = \$545 (once).



#### Scenario

**I'm a provider registered in Category 6.**

**I'm buying a residential care home (RCH) that's already been approved.**

**I want to add the approved RCH to my registration.**

You won't have to pay any variation fees because your RCH is an existing service. Variation fees are for new RCHs only.



# More information

You can find more information at the following links:

- [Cost Recovery Implementation Statement](#)
- [Cost recovery](#)
- [Registration fees](#)
- [Aged Care Act 2024](#)
- [Provider Registration Policy](#)
- [Modified Monash Model classifications](#)
- [Australian Government Cost Recovery Policy](#)



*The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.*

November 2025



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